

IPE workshop engages 96 students on teamwork and communication

For the 4th consecutive year, the Interprofessional Education (IPE) Committee organized the workshop entitled “Being an Effective Team Player”. Held in collaboration between QU College of Pharmacy, QU College of Health Sciences and University of Calgary in Qatar (UCQ).

The workshop, held at UCQ, aimed to (improve communication across participating students as future health care providers, as well as provide the foundations for working collaboratively in patient care).

It brought together 96 students from four different professions (Pharmacy, Human Nutrition, Nursing and Public Health). The program’s agenda included a misconception game in which students were divided into small groups and shared the biggest misconceptions the public had about their respective professions and how they would educate others about this. It also included a video reflection exercise “Exploring the Concept of Team Communication” and “Decision Making and then Case Based Discussion on Faulty communication by the team” in which students watched a video on human factors errors that resulted in the death of a healthy young mum. Students in interprofessional groups then discussed the importance of working and communicating together effectively to provide quality care and ensure patient safety.

QU College of Pharmacy Dean, Dr Mohammad Diab said: “The Interprofessional Education Committee (IPEC) launched by the College of Pharmacy in 2014, began bringing together students from healthcare institutions across the country in a unique learning environment. I am proud of how IPE has evolved in Qatar, and hope workshops like these continue to reinforce the importance of collaborative healthcare planning and deliverance. We remain committed to continue providing rich learning opportunities for all healthcare students, enhancing patient care and creating a healthier Qatar.”

CHS Dean and QU Biomedical Research Center Director Dr Asma Al-Thani said: “With the increase of emerging health issues caused by different factors such as chronic illnesses, it is important for us to focus on providing collaborative patient care. The involvement of our students in interprofessional education activities are essential to facilitate their interaction and to highlight the importance of a team-based health care workforce, which will reflect on the quality of patient service and safety.”

QU CPH Assistant Dean for Student Affairs Alla El-Awaisi said: “This is the fourth occurrence of this specific IPE activity through the Interprofessional Education Committee and it was another great success and we are delighted to see this activity has been sustained over the past couple of years. Interprofessional education is a great opportunity for students to experience working and learning from each other, clarifying roles, negating negative perception about the others and understanding that no one profession is able to care for the patient alone. We should all work collaboratively complementing each other and understanding the capability and limitations of our and other professions to effectively be a key player in the health care team.”

UCQ Nursing Instructor Kathleen de Leon-Demare said: “This IPE event was successful in bringing home the message “to err is human” and to minimize errors. Effective communication within the health care team is crucial. I was impressed by the students’

analysis of multiple factors that can lead to faulty communication and their vision of a blameless culture to create a safe practice environment. This is a powerful learning activity for both the faculty and the students.”

2nd-year CPH student Radoa Al Ansari said: “The IPE activity and being in a health care team was a great opportunity to learn how other professions really think of a pharmacist. In fact, I have learned how does the interaction between us supposed to be. I have also learned that human factors such as accepting everyone is equal, communicating respectfully, and being confident will contribute to improving a patient’s life.”

CHS Human Nutrition student Walah Mohammad said: “The IPE was a great chance for us to learn about each other’s role. It also helped us as future health care practitioners to know our limits and only practice within our field, to always work in teams, and to respect each other.”

CHS Public Health student Hana Jihad Abukhadajah said: “The IPE activity was my passport to work collaboratively with different professions, through effective communications to improve the care that we are likely to deliver in the future.”

3rd-year UCQ Nursing Student Nurul Rizkika said: “This was the fourth time that I participate in an IPE event and this was the first time where I learned that no matter what our profession is, we are all prone to make mistakes, and by working as a team we can empower each other through effective communication”.